

JOHN J. BREWER.

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FEBRUARY 1, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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MR. BAKER, of Kansas, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 7335.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7335) granting a pension to John J. Brewer, having considered the same, respectfully report:

This soldier enlisted as second lieutenant of Company A, First Tennessee Infantry (afterwards Company A, Tenth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry), April 21, 1862, and was honorably discharged May 21, 1862.

About the 1st of May, 1862, he contracted a severe fever, which affected his head, and he was discharged by order of General Dumont. His health continued bad, and his eyes became affected about time of his discharge, and so continued until the autumn of 1863, when he went to Illinois and remained away from his home in Tennessee until the autumn of 1865, when he returned, and his eyes were then seriously affected, and continued to grow worse until 1867, when he became entirely blind.

The Pension Bureau rejected his claim for pension because he was unable to establish the condition of his eyes while absent from Tennessee from 1863 to 1865.

The proof shows this soldier now in destitute circumstances, with a large family of girls and an invalid wife.

In view of all the facts presented the committee believe that this soldier should have some relief, and recommend the passage of the bill, with the following amendments:

Strike out the word "formerly," in line 5, and insert "late second lieutenant."

Insert the words "First Tennessee Infantry, subsequently" immediately before the word "Tenth" in line 6.

Strike out all the printed bill after the word "rate," in line 7, and insert in lieu thereof "of thirty dollars per month."

Amend title so as to read, "A bill granting a pension to John J. Brewer."